

# Regional Council of Rural Counties



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YUBA

April 8, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Lester:

The Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC), is comprised of twenty-seven counties, representing almost two million people, over sixty-five thousand square miles, and collectively supplying over eighty-percent of the surface flows that enters the Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay-Delta.

We wish to thank you for sending the CALFED Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to us for review on behalf of our membership. Even though we have just begun our review of this monumental document, we are impressed with CALFED's commitment to receiving input from all interested parties in a meaningful way. RCRC fully intends on participating in the CALFED DEIR/EIS public hearings as well as provide written comments.

This document is a significant milestone in the CALFED process, and marks a key point in the development of the administrative record to support any decision. In addition, it will, for the first time, allow the people of California to evaluate the potential impacts that will result from the CALFED process.

CALFED's final decision could literally change the physical and socio-economic landscape of the state for generations to come. Due to potential significant economic, environmental and community impacts on rural California, RCRC requests that the time period for public comment on CALFED's DEIR/EIS, be extended an additional 120 days, moving the public comment period deadline from June 1, 1998, to approximately October 1, 1998. This extension will allow adequate time for a complete analysis by all stakeholders.

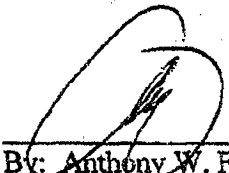
We believe that without adequate time for review and comment, the CALFED Program may be put into jeopardy. The imposition of a 75 day public comment period on this document is not adequate to achieve greater public awareness, involvement and support.

Mr. Lester Snow  
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Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Marcia L. Basque  
Executive Director



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By: Anthony W. Farrington  
Special Programs Coordinator  
Government Affairs

Cc: The Honorable Richard Dickerson, President  
The Honorable Robert A. Meacher, Chair, Water Committee  
The Honorable Charles Willard, Chair, Ground Water Advisory Subcommittee  
David French, Director, Government Affairs  
Mr. John S. Mills, RCRC Consultant  
Mr. Michael B. Jackson, RCRC Legal Counsel

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